

years. Our future prosperity depends on reversing this trend. Studies have shown that 85 percent of growth in U.S. income before 1950 was due to technological innovation and that in the last 60 years, technological innovation has been responsible for half of U.S. economic growth. But in the fall of 2005, scientists polled by Rep. FRANK WOLF said that we were losing ground in science and innovation, with 60 percent saying that we were "in decline" and 40 percent that we were "in a stall." Decline and stall will not ensure job growth and economic prosperity in the coming century.

But we must also apply the results of these research and education initiatives to our business and manufacturing industry, and the Technology Innovation and Manufacturing Stimulation Act (H. R. 1868) begins this process. The bill reauthorizes the National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST), which is responsible for many breakthrough technologies of the last century, setting us on course to double its funding over 10 years. It also creates the Technology Innovation Program to allocate funds to small high-tech companies and enable them to continue their research and development until they can bring their products to the marketplace.

Our investment in science and technology research and education can reverse the bleeding away of our manufacturing base, which creates national security as well as economic risks. In recent years almost half of our new jobs have been created by low-wage employers, which lower our standard of living. If we haven't yet noticed, others have, and Canada and Australia won a Pew Research Center international poll in 2005 about the best country to go to lead a good life. Superiority in science and technology and a positive environment for new or renewed industries will result in good, high-paying jobs, and allow us to overcome the competitive advantage of countries, like China, with low-wage structures.

There is every reason to expect that we can, given sufficient investment, create new industries with good jobs to respond to our need for clean energy and energy independence, among many possibilities. I am proud to have voted to address this crisis and invest in our future prosperity, industrial strength, and national security.

HONORING THE CAREER OF
MTSU'S TENNIS COACH DALE
SHORT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dale Short, Middle Tennessee State University's tennis coach, upon the occasion of his retirement after 20 years with the university.

During Dale's time as head coach of MTSU's tennis program, the teams moved from competing in the Ohio Valley Conference to the Sun Belt Conference. Coach Short has coached the Blue Raiders to 383 victories, 11 regular season championships and nine conference tournament titles. Dale and his teams have also participated in eight of the last 12

NCAA Team Championships, and several athletes have made the NCAA Singles or Doubles Championships in 10 of the last 13 seasons.

Before coaching tennis, Dale racked up an impressive record as a player. He was named OVC Player of the Year twice as a student at MTSU and All-State performer as an Oakland High School student.

Director of Athletics Chris Massaro calls Dale "Mr. Tennis," and says while Dale will be missed by MTSU, he will always be a Blue Raider. In his retirement, Dale says he and his wife, Ava, are looking forward to enjoying Blue Raider athletics—especially football, basketball and baseball, the sports they couldn't watch as fans due to his busy coaching schedule.

Coach Short, I wish you the best in your retirement. As an MTSU alumnus, I'll be watching the Blue Raiders right along with you.

COMMENDING STUDENTS FROM
HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN HIGH
SCHOOL

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a group of twenty outstanding Hoosier students, Ben Anderson, Lauren Bowser, Austin Brady, Kristin Buckingham, Jesse Hawkins, Kirk Higgins, Chris Hill, Tiernan Kane, Nika Kim, Ryan Landry, Julie Lux, Rachel Morris, Jeff Neuffer, David Ostendorf, Ryan Puckett, Taylor Schueth, Matt Stein, Amy Thomas, Aleks Vitolins, and Edward Wolenty and their teacher Jill Baisinger.

These students participated in the We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution competition here in Washington, DC April 28–30, 2007. After winning both the state and district competitions the group competed against 50 other schools and achieved honorable mention and placement in the top ten. These students competed against a class from every state in the country and demonstrated a remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideals and values of American constitutional government.

We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution is an annual competition in Washington, DC in which students participate in a mock-congressional hearing. Every team has six units of three or more students and each is responsible for one particular area of Congressional expertise. The students arrive prepared to give speeches in response to formal prompts and then testify as constitutional experts before a panel of judges. More than 1,200 students participate each year in the national competition.

The program is administered by the Center for Civic Education and is the most extensive of its kind, reaching more than 28 million students in elementary, middle and high schools. The Students from Hamilton Southeastern High School have made their fellow Hoosiers very proud and I wish them all the best in their future pursuits.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
MEMORIAL HERMANN

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring the House of Representatives' attention to the many accomplishments of the Memorial Hermann Healthcare System. This year marks the system's 100th year of providing the most advanced healthcare to the people of Texas. Though the Memorial Hermann name has only been in use since 1997, the hospitals that form this great healthcare system have been a cornerstone of the Houston medical community for over a century.

Their story began in 1907 when Rev. Dennis Pevoto led an effort to purchase an 18-bed sanitarium in downtown Houston, and converted it into what would eventually become known as the Memorial Hospital System. Under its new leadership, the hospital would treat all patients, regardless of religion, race or their ability to pay—a mission that has not changed in the hospital's 100 year history.

Seven years later, prominent Houstonian George H. Hermann bequeathed nearly \$2.6 million for the construction of a hospital dedicated to treating the poor and sick of Houston. By 1925 the Hermann Hospital was accepting patients and opening a school of nursing. Eventually, the two hospitals would merge to form what is now known as Memorial Hermann.

Throughout its first 100 years, the hospitals that now form the Memorial Hermann system have been at the leading edge of medicine and technology. Their many firsts include being the first general hospital in Texas to receive penicillin (1943), performing the first cardiac catheterization in Texas (1946), being the first hospital in the nation to be air conditioned (1949), establishing the first general practice residency in Texas (1957), establishing the first hospital-based speech clinic in the South (1965), being the first community hospital in the nation to offer routine hearing tests for newborns (1969), and performing the first ever hand transplant (1992). These accomplishments and many more have brought the medical professionals of Memorial Hermann national and international recognition as one of the best in the business. In fact, Memorial was first voted a "Top 100" hospital in the nation beginning in 1996.

Today, the Memorial Hermann Healthcare System encompasses 16 hospitals employing nearly 19,000 throughout Texas. Its state-of-the-art facilities treat patients and train the nation's next generation of physicians across the state, including in my hometown of The Woodlands.

Madam Speaker, the lives this wonderful hospital has touched are countless. I congratulate them on reaching this magnificent milestone and wish them the best for their next 100 years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, on May 3, 2007, I requested and received a leave of absence from May 3 to May 9, 2007, due to my presence at previous commitments in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Improving Head Start Act of 2007 (H.R. 1429): Rollcall No. 277, the Price of Georgia Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 278, the Sestak of Pennsylvania Amendment, "aye"; rollcall No. 279, the Hirono of Hawaii Amendment, "aye"; rollcall No. 280, the Mica of Florida Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 281, the Putnam of Florida Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 282, the Carnahan of Missouri Amendment, "aye"; and rollcall No. 283, the Shuler of North Carolina Amendment, "aye".

Rollcall No. 284, on Motion to Recommit with Instructions, "no"; rollcall No. 285, on Passage, Improving Head Start Act, H.R. 1429, "aye"; rollcall No. 286, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, H. Res. 243, "aye"; rollcall No. 287, the Sullivan (OK) Amendment to Honda (CA) Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 288, the Honda of California Amendment, "aye"; rollcall No. 289, the Campbell of California Amendment No. 5, "no"; rollcall No. 290, the Campbell of California Amendment No. 4, "no"; and rollcall No. 291, the Garrett of New Jersey Amendment No. 11, "no."

Rollcall No. 292, the Flake of Arizona Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 293, the Matsui of California Amendment, "aye"; rollcall No. 294, the Price of Georgia Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 295, on Passage, National Science Foundation Authorization Act, H.R. 1867, "aye"; rollcall No. 296, on Ordering the Previous Question, H. Res. 364, "aye"; rollcall No. 297, on Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 364, "aye"; and rollcall No. 298, on Motion to Recommit with Instructions, "no."

Rollcall No. 299, on Passage, To provide Federal assistance to States, local jurisdictions, and Indian tribes to prosecute hate crimes, H.R. 1592, "aye"; rollcall No. 300, on Motion to Recommit with Instructions, H.R. 1868, "no"; rollcall No. 301, on Passage, Technology Innovation and Manufacturing Stimulation Act, H.R. 1868, "aye"; rollcall No. 302, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 407, "aye"; rollcall No. 303, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 1025, "aye"; rollcall No. 304, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, H. Res. 371, "aye"; rollcall No. 305, on Agreeing to the Resolution, H.R. 1294, "aye"; and rollcall No. 306, on Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 370, "aye".

Rollcall No. 307, on Agreeing to the Resolution, S. Con. Res. 1, "aye"; rollcall No. 308, on Motion to Instruct Conferees, S. Con. Res. 1, "no"; rollcall No. 309, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 1595, "aye"; rollcall No. 310, on Ordering the Previous Question, H. Res. 382, "aye"; rollcall No. 311, on Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 382, "aye"; rollcall No. 312, on Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 383, "aye"; rollcall

No. 313, on Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 383, "aye"; and rollcall No. 314, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, Student Loan, H.R. 890, "aye".

EEOICPA OMBUDSMAN ENHANCEMENT AND EXTENSION ACT OF 2007**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to introduce the EEOICPA Ombudsman Enhancement and Extension Act of 2007. I am also pleased to be joined in doing so by Representatives UDALL of Colorado, SLAUGHTER, WAMP, WHITFIELD, and HASTINGS.

This important legislation is needed to extend the authorization of the EEOICPA Ombudsman, which is set to expire on October 28th of this year. The office of the EEOICPA Ombudsman was created in 2004 to help individuals making claims under Part E of the program navigate the complex and cumbersome claims process. The EEOICPA Ombudsman has proven to be an effective ally for these Cold War heroes who have contracted serious illnesses as a result of their work for the United States Government.

Since the implementation of EEOICPA, it has become tragically apparent that the program is not working as intended. Claimants face overwhelming obstacles on their road to compensation. From a complex bureaucracy, to a highly technical burden of proof, to intimidating health physics discussions—all the while dealing with the physical and emotional strains of their illnesses—obtaining compensation for many claimants has proven to be a particularly difficult process.

With that in mind, Congress created the Office of the EEOICPA Ombudsman, an independent office tasked with providing information to claimants and advising the Department of Labor concerning additional Resource Centers. However, due to objections from the Administration, language originally included in the FY05 Senate Defense Authorization that provided broader authority for the office was scaled back in favor of the language that ultimately became law. As a result, the Ombudsman was not only scheduled for sunset, but was also prohibited from serving as an advocate for claimants. It was instead restricted to a role in which its powers are limited to making inquiries on behalf of claimants. There is no question the Ombudsman has proven to be extremely valuable even in its limited capacity, but with broader authority, the Ombudsman will be that much more effective as an advocate, helping claimants receive the compensation they deserve, which, after all, is the intention of the EEOICPA program in the first place.

Today, my colleagues and I seek to provide broader authority for the EEOICPA Ombudsman by introducing this legislation. This bill extends the life of the EEOICPA Ombudsman indefinitely, expands its authority from Part E of the program to Part B, and provides contracting authority for services necessary to ful-

fill their duties. Also, this legislation expands the powers of the EEOICPA Ombudsman to act as an advocate for the claimants when the Ombudsman determines it is appropriate. One other expansion of power in this legislation is to give the Office of the Ombudsman the authority to provide recommendations to Congress about legislative changes needed to make EEOICPA work more effectively. These are all expansions that are greatly needed to help the Ombudsman build on its already valuable role, which, in turn, helps EEOICPA claimants obtain their compensation.

I urge my colleagues to join us in support of this legislation and help improve and expand efforts to provide some measure of justice to our Cold War heroes.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MR. ELISHA GRAY**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Mr. CONYERS. Madam. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a man who may be little known to the Nation, but one who is a treasure to the City of Detroit. Elisha Z. Gray, born on May 1, 1917 in Arlington, TN, right outside of Memphis, celebrated his 90th birthday last week.

At the age of 18, Mr. Gray left Arlington in search of a new life in bustling Detroit. For the next 9 years, he worked on the automobile assembly lines of the famous Packard Plant on East Grand Boulevard. On many occasions during those years, he served as a butcher in Detroit's historic Eastern Market.

It was not until 1944 when Elisha received his barbers' license from Michigan Barber College, that he evolved into his true calling. Since black subjects were not allowed at his school, his first opportunity to cut a black man's hair came in 1945 when he opened the Family Barber Shop on the corner of Hazelett and Milford. In fact, I remember my father John Conyers, Sr. being one of his loyal customers when we lived around the corner from his shop on Colfax.

The Family Barber attracted some of Detroit's most powerful and influential citizens, most of whom came from the west side of Detroit. Mr. Gray not only served his more distinguished clientele, but he was equally inviting to his everyday customers from the neighborhood. The Family Barber was the centerpiece that allowed the two worlds to intersect. His shop was also used as a training ground for other young black African-American barbers who would have their first experience cutting hair for blacks. In addition, he sponsored various athletic teams which enabled the neighborhood youth to get involved in constructive recreational activities, and encouraged them to stay off the streets and out of trouble.

I was sad to hear that Elisha sold the Family Barber in 1972, but it came as no surprise that he was already pursuing a new venture. Soon, he became a real estate agent, then a broker and soon after, he established E.Z. Gray & Sons Realtors on Puritan in Detroit. Although he has long retired from the real estate